

### **Remarks**

Claims 34-51 are pending in the application. Claim 40 has been amended. Claims 35-38, 43-44 and 47 have been withdrawn. Reconsideration and reexamination of the application is respectfully requested for the reasons set forth herein.

1. Claim 40 has been amended to correct a typographical error. Approval of the amendment to claim 40 is respectfully requested.
2. The Examiner has issued an election requirement stating that three patentably distinct species are claimed in the above-identified application. The Examiner stated that Figures 1-6 are drawn to Species 1, Figures 7-16 are drawn to Species 2, and Figures 17-26 are drawn to Species 3.
3. The Examiner further stated that there are currently no generic claims in the application.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner that there are currently no generic claims in the application. At least claims 34, 45-46 and 48 read on all of the species claimed in the application; therefore, at least claims 34, 45-46 and 48 are generic claims.

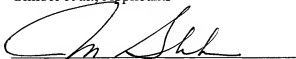
In reply to the election requirement, claims 34, 39-42, 45-46 and 48-51, which read on Species 2 are provisionally elected for prosecution. The remainder of the claims have been withdrawn; however, upon allowance of a generic claim, it is respectfully requested that any claims that depend from an allowed generic claim additionally be examined.

In view of the arguments and amendments presented herein, the application is considered to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and passage to issue is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any questions or needs further clarification, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

Gimbel et al., Applicants

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Slonaker", is written over a horizontal line.

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